United Nations A/73/297

General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 August 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
Item 23 (b) of the provisional agenda*
Groups of countries in special situations: follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on landlocked developing countries

Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to resolution 72/232, in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit at its seventy-third session a progress report on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024. The report reviews the progress in the implementation of the priorities of the Vienna Programme of Action, including activities by Member States and relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other organizations in response to the Programme. The report identifies the major challenges encountered and suggests recommendations to accelerate the implementation of the Programme. The report stresses that the landlocked developing countries require continued and enhanced investment and technical assistance to further advance implementation of the priorities of the Programme, in particular with regard to infrastructure development, trade facilitation, structural transformation and regional integration. That will also help contribute to those countries' efforts towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The report also calls for greater cooperation between landlocked developing countries and transit countries and deepened regional integration to improve the trade potential of landlocked developing countries.

In addition, the report provides an update on the progress made in the preparatory process for the comprehensive midterm review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, to be held no later than December 2019, as called for in resolution 72/232. The international community is invited to ensure its active support and participation in the preparatory process and the midterm review itself.

The report also takes note of the inauguration of the International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries, the first intergovernmental body of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries.

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I. Introduction

1. Landlocked developing countries are confronted with structural challenges pertaining to their geographical disadvantages, which result in disproportionally high transport and trade costs that hinder their competitiveness, job creation, integration into regional and world markets, economic growth and overall sustainable development.

2. The Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 reflects the commitment of the international community to address the challenges faced by landlocked developing countries in a more coherent manner and to contribute to an enhanced rate of sustainable and inclusive growth, which can in turn contribute to the eradication of poverty. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes the importance of addressing the special needs of landlocked developing countries.

3. The present report is the fourth report on progress in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action. It highlights the role of United Nations entities in following up on the Programme of Action and proposes recommendations to accelerate its implementation. An annex containing statistical tables is attached.

II. Overview of recent socioeconomic developments and progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals in landlocked developing countries

4. Real growth in gross domestic product (GDP) for landlocked developing countries continued to decline, falling to 2.79 per cent in 2016, its lowest level since 1998. Continued efforts are needed to reverse that downward trend and to eradicate extreme poverty by 2030 in those countries. The scorecard of progress towards meeting the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals presents a mixed picture. For Goal 1, the proportion of those countries' total population living below the international poverty line of $1.90 per day declined to 31 per cent in 2013, but was still higher than the world average, which stood at 10.9 per cent. The percentage of the employed population below the poverty line in landlocked developing countries declined, from 26.8 per cent in 2015 to 25.5 per cent in 2017.

5. With regard to Goal 2, despite an earlier decline, the prevalence of undernourishment in landlocked developing countries increased to a projected 23.2 per cent during the period 2014–2016, compared with 22.9 per cent during the period 2009–2011. In 2015, the prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity was 51.6 per cent of the adult population, compared with a global average of 23.9 per cent. Official flows to the agriculture sectors in landlocked developing countries in 2016 amounted to $2.8 billion, equivalent to 8.4 per cent of the total official flows to those countries, up from 7.7 per cent in 2015.

6. For Goal 3, mortality rates of children under the age of 5 in landlocked developing countries declined, from 65.9 per 1,000 live births in 2015 to 63.3 in 2016. Similarly, neonatal mortality declined from 26.3 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2015 to 25.6 in 2016. The HIV incidence rate continued to decline, from 0.76 new cases per 1,000 uninfected people in 2015 to 0.71 in 2016. Further progress was also achieved from 2015 to 2016 with regard to indicators for tuberculosis, neglected tropical diseases, non-communicable diseases and suicide.

7. Regarding Goals 4 and 5, continued overall improvement in school enrolment indicators was registered through 2015 and 2016, although gender disparities persist. Progress continues to be made on indicators related to gender equality and the

empowerment of women and girls, including a decline in the percentages of women aged 20 to 24 reporting that they had been married by the age of 15 or by the age of 18. In 2018, 25 per cent of seats in national parliaments and local governing bodies in landlocked developing countries were held by women, exceeding the global average of 23.4 per cent.

8. With regard to Goal 6, despite steady improvements over the past years, the average proportion of the population in landlocked developing countries with access to improved drinking water sources and sanitation facilities remains very low, and well below world averages, especially in rural areas.

9. On Goal 7, the percentage of the population with access to electricity rose by 7 per cent to 51.8 per cent from 2015 to 2016. Energy intensity, measured in terms of primary energy and GDP, improved from 2014 to 2015.

10. Regarding Goal 8, in 2016, the annual growth rate of real GDP per capita of landlocked developing countries stood at 0.4 per cent, its lowest level in over a decade, down from 1.0 per cent in 2015. Unemployment remained at 5.5 per cent during 2015–2017; however, unemployment disproportionately affected women and youth.

11. For Goal 9, data show continued growth in air passenger and freight transport, with the latter increasing by 3 per cent in 2016. Manufacturing value added has remained broadly constant over the past three years both as a share of total GDP as well as per capita.

12. With regard to Goals 11 and 12, the mean level of fine particulate matter in cities in 2014 was 44 per cent compared with a world average of 45 per cent. There was an upward trend in material consumption in absolute terms from 2015 to 2017, as well as in the material footprint per capita.

13. Concerning Goal 13 on climate change, the high vulnerability of landlocked developing countries to the negative impacts of climate change, especially drought, desertification, land degradation and the melting of glaciers, is of serious concern, and increased resources and support are needed to implement national adaptation plans. For Goal 15, land covered by forests has declined steadily from 16.3 per cent in 2010 to 15.8 per cent in 2015, while total official development assistance (ODA) for conservation, biodiversity and ecosystems has declined from 2010 to 2016.

14. With regard to Goal 14, some progress has been made in raising awareness on the part of landlocked developing countries regarding their right to utilize the oceans, seas and marine resources, and to carry out activities in the international seabed area, but greater support and resources are needed to improve their participation and access.

15. Finally, on Goals 10 and 17, total flows for development to landlocked developing countries, including ODA, other official flows and private flows, declined from $38.1 billion in 2015 to $34.6 billion in 2016. Debt servicing as a percentage of exports rose from 3.8 in 2015 to 4.9 in 2016.

III. Status of implementation of the priorities of the Vienna Programme of Action

Priority 1: fundamental transit policy issues

16. The Vienna Programme of Action stresses the necessity of a strong and supportive legal framework that promotes the harmonization, simplification and standardization of rules and documentation, including the full and effective implementation of relevant international conventions on transport and transit. The

current status of ratification of some key international legal instruments by landlocked developing countries and transit countries is presented in table 1.

17. Four landlocked developing countries — the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Central African Republic, Malawi and Uganda — have ratified the World Trade Organization (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement since August 2017. Recent ratifications of the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets include China in January 2017 and India in June 2017.

Table 1
Status of ratification of key international conventions to promote trade and transport facilitation as of July 2018

Convention	*Landlocked developing countries*	*Transit countries*	*World total*
World Trade Organization Trade Facilitation Agreement (2013)	22	25	137
Revised Kyoto Convention (2006)	19	23	123
Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (1975)	11	7	73
International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods (1982)	12	2	58

Source: Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, Economic Commission for Europe, World Customs Organization and World Trade Organization.

18. In July 2017, the World Customs Organization launched transit guidelines to assist its member States on how to apply the standards set in international conventions to facilitate faster customs and border procedures. The Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and other international organizations provided substantive contributions to the development of the transit guidelines.

19. In June 2018, Mongolia signed an agreement on rail freight transit terms with the Russian Federation. Under the agreement, Mongolia will enjoy tariff discounts on the transit transport of its export goods through the Russian Federation for 25 years.

20. In Africa, the South African Development Community (SADC), in collaboration with the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa and the East African Community, launched the Tripartite Transport and Transit Facilitation Programme in October 2017. The project, funded by the European Union, aims to facilitate the development of a more competitive, integrated and liberalized regional road transport market in the East and Southern Africa region. Its purpose is to develop and implement harmonized road transport policies, laws, regulations and standards for efficient cross-border road transport and transit networks, transport and logistics services, systems and procedures.

21. A document establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area was signed in March 2018, creating a single continental market for goods and services as well as a customs union to enable the free movement of capital and business travellers.

22. In Latin America, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Paraguay signed a memorandum of understanding in 2017 for a rail project that will connect the two countries. The railway segment will interface with the bioceanic railway corridor that will connect the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans by way of a 3,700 km line starting from the port of Santos, Brazil, passing through the Plurinational State of Bolivia, and ending in Ilo, Peru.

Priority 2: infrastructure development and maintenance

23. Continued efforts are under way to expand and upgrade road and rail transport infrastructure in all regions that have landlocked developing countries. Despite improvements, poor quality and deficiencies in the quantity of physical infrastructure are still major obstacles to developing viable and predictable transit transport systems in those countries.

24. Current data on road indicators for landlocked developing countries are not available. Using the most recent data available, ranging from 2009 to 2015, the Office of High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States calculated the road density in paved road network length (km) per unit of land area (km^2) in order to quantify transport infrastructure. Landlocked developing countries lag behind transit countries and the world in terms of both paved roads and railway density (see table 2). Landlocked developing countries contain only 12 per cent of the world's paved roads and just over one third of the world's railways. Those averages conceal very large differences between the regional averages, as landlocked developing countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia have the highest road and railway densities. The largest deficiencies for both road and rail are for landlocked developing countries in East Asia and in West and Central Africa. Both road and railway development in landlocked developing countries need to be further accelerated in order to improve the trade potential of the such countries.

Table 2
Paved road and railway density of landlocked developing countries and transit countries

Category	*Paved road density (km per 1,000 km^2)*	*Rail density (km per 1,000 km^2)*
Landlocked developing countries	19.1	3.6
Transit countries	191.4	8.6
Global	151.0	9.5

Source: Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, 2018.

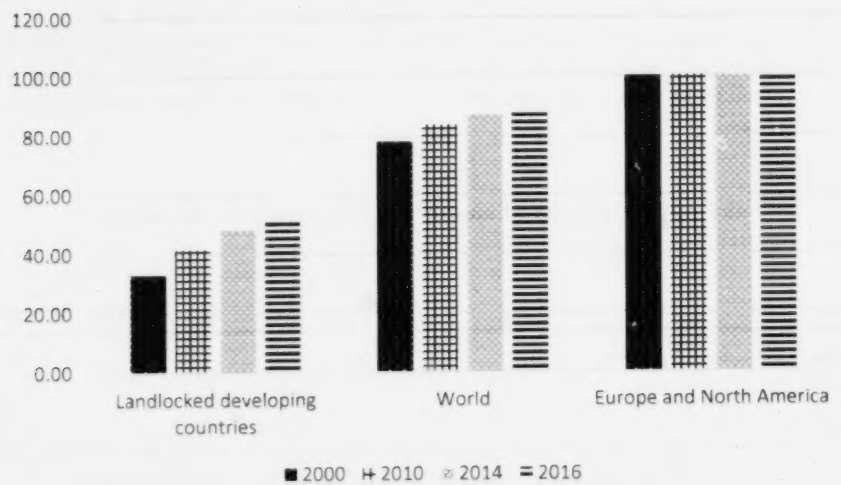
25. The number of registered air carrier departures worldwide increased in landlocked developing countries by 7 per cent to 413,833 in 2016. The global share of landlocked developing countries in freight transport by air was 1.28 per cent in 2016. Air transport is particularly important because it provides those who live in landlocked developing countries with direct access to international markets without the need to pass through transit countries. In January 2018, the African Union launched the Single African Air Transport Market, which aims to increase the continent's global share of the aviation industry. It provides for the full liberalization of intra-African air transport services in terms of market access and the free exercise of the first five freedoms of the air for scheduled and freight air services by eligible airlines. It removes restrictions on ownership and provides for the full liberalization of frequencies, tariffs and capacity.

26. Inland waterways are particularly used by landlocked developing countries in Latin America, South-East Asia and Central Africa. The major challenges of inland waterways include the reduction in water level at low periods, silting and other physical constraints, as well as issues related to their operation, management and regulation. To realize its potential, and to safeguard navigational safety and

environmental protection, transit trade involving the use of inland water transport requires improvements in infrastructure.

27. Regarding energy infrastructure, the average proportion of people with access to electricity in landlocked developing countries increased from 48.2 per cent in 2015 to 51.8 per cent in 2016, as shown in figure I; however, landlocked developing countries still lagged behind the world average of 87 per cent in 2016. Although landlocked developing countries experienced a 40 per cent increase in electricity in rural areas from 2014 to 2016, the rural-urban gap is still significant, as 83.5 per cent of the population in urban areas have access compared with 40.5 per cent in rural areas. Furthermore, at least two thirds of the population of landlocked developing countries relies on the traditional use of biomass for cooking, underscoring the urgent need for improved access to clean and modern cooking energy.

Figure I
Proportion of population with access to electricity
(Percentage)



Source: Supplementary information to E/2018/64.

28. With regard to information and communications technology (ICT), landlocked developing countries have experienced continued growth in mobile cellular subscriptions, increasing from 71.9 per 100 people in 2015 to 73.5 in 2016. However, landlocked developing countries lag significantly behind the world average for fourth generation (4G) network coverage. The average number of Internet users increased from 20.5 per 100 people in 2015 to 22.9 in 2016; however, as a group, landlocked developing countries lag behind other groups of countries. Landlocked developing countries continue to face high costs for broadband and more efforts are required to lower prices.

29. Unaffordable ICT connectivity hampers opportunities to leverage e-commerce, smart transportation systems and emerging technologies for sustainable development.

30. The investment needs for infrastructure development in the transport, energy and ICT sectors are great. A recent study conducted by the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States calculated investment estimates needed for the transport sectors of landlocked developing countries and found that for those countries to reach the global average of road and rail network densities, they would

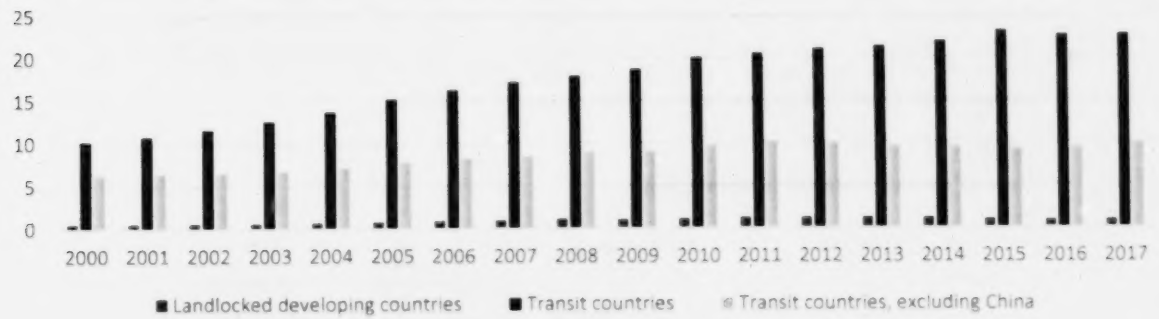
need to construct almost 200,000 km of paved roads and another 46,000 km of railways at a cost of about $0.51 trillion. Closing that gap in landlocked developing countries will require not only enhanced resources from the public sector, private sector and international development partners and the exploration of new sources of financing, but also efforts to make better use of existing resources.

Priority 3: international trade and trade facilitation

31. The 32 landlocked developing countries account for less than 1 per cent of global merchandise trade. Their participation in international trade, measured as the share of their merchandise exports in global exports, reached a peak of 1.22 per cent in 2012 and has since declined to an estimated 0.91 per cent in 2017. Figure II shows that trend as compared with a group of 34 transit countries that includes China and India.

32. A closer look at the disaggregated data at the country level shows that only four landlocked developing countries account for nearly 50 per cent of the group's total merchandise exports. The majority of the landlocked developing countries (21) accounted for no more than 2 per cent each, which demonstrates the degree of marginalization experienced by landlocked developing countries in global trade.

Figure II
Share of merchandise exports in global trade
(Percentage)



Source: UNCTADstat.

33. The rapid growth in e-commerce offers economy-wide benefits for landlocked developing countries aiming to integrate into global trade by providing opportunities for new markets and connections to international supply chains. The participation of landlock developing countries in e-commerce is still marginal owing to many factors, such as inadequate information and communications technology infrastructure, underdeveloped financial systems, weak legal and regulatory frameworks and low levels of ICT literacy. To utilize the opportunities provided by e-commerce, landlocked developing countries would require, among other things, capacity-building, reduction of the digital divide and improvement in trade facilitation.

34. One of the key challenges affecting the integration of the landlocked developing countries into global trade is the high trade costs resulting from long distances to ports, isolation from the international markets and cumbersome border procedures, among other things. The WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement sets out an important innovative method for creating an international framework to reduce delays at borders and reduce trade costs, which are among the biggest challenges faced by landlocked developing countries.

35. Various economic studies demonstrate that the Trade Facilitation Agreement will reduce trade costs. A report of the Organization for Economic Development (OECD) on trade facilitation indicators published in 2015 [1] indicated that the implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement could reduce worldwide trade costs by between 12.5 and 17.5 per cent. It is also estimated that developing countries would receive two thirds of the $1 trillion in gains from the trade expansion resulting from the Agreement. In addition, it is expected that the Agreement would likely reduce the time needed to import goods by more than a day and a half and to export goods by almost two days, representing a reduction in time of 47 per cent for imports and 91 per cent for exports over the current average.

36. As of July 2018, 22 of the 26 landlocked developing countries that are members of WTO had ratified the Trade Facilitation Agreement. The high level of ratification of the Agreement by those countries demonstrates the importance and the commitment they attach to the Agreement. The Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States contributed to raising the awareness of Member States regarding the potential benefits and implications of ratifying the Agreement and other conventions related to transit transport and trade facilitation for landlocked developing countries.

37. As of the end of July 2018, 24 landlocked developing countries had submitted their category A measures.[2] While some of those countries have made good progress in the implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, many are still lagging behind, as demonstrated by the proportion of category A measures implemented by those countries. Only seven landlocked developing countries have implemented more than 50 per cent of the measures under category A. The implementation of the measures of the Agreement by landlocked developing countries is relatively low compared with other developing countries, as shown in table 3.

Table 3
Rate of implementation commitments
(Percentage)

Category	*Rate of implementation commitments as of August 2018*	*Rate of implementation commitments from December 2018 to February 2027 without capacity-building support*	*Rate of implementation commitments from September 2018 to February 2032 upon receipt of capacity-building support*	*Rate of implementation commitments yet to be designated*
All WTO members	60.6	7.9	11.3	20.3
Developing countries	59.3	8.5	10.1	22.2
Landlocked developing countries	34.0	19.4	26.4	20.2

Source: WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement database, updated August 2018.

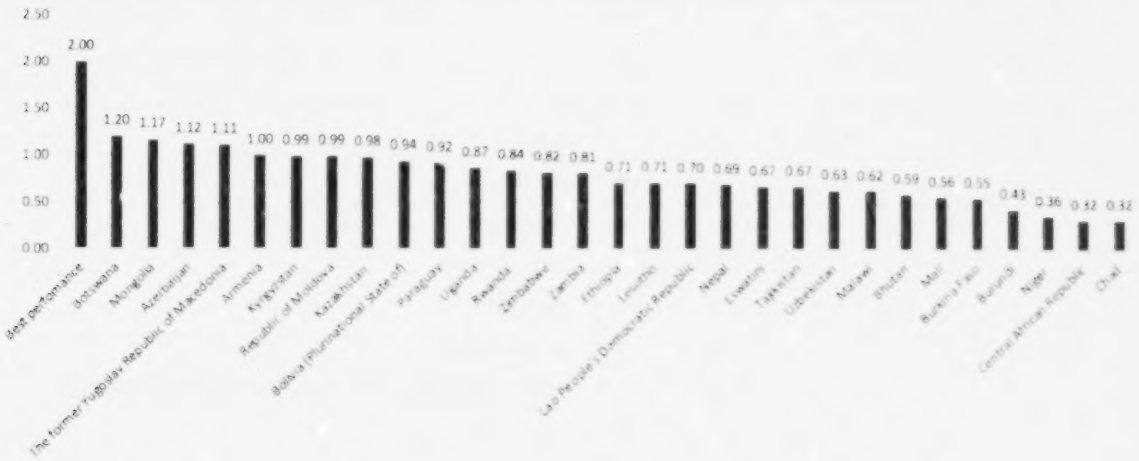
38. Comparing the trade facilitation performance of landlocked developing countries to that of transit countries, landlocked developing countries lag behind their transit counterparts in implementation, as demonstrated by the trade facilitation indicators. OECD developed the trade facilitation indicators to help governments measure trade facilitation performance in terms of the implementation of various

[1] OECD, "Implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement: the potential impact on trade costs" (June 2015). Available at www.oecd.org/trade/WTO-TF-Implementation-Policy-Brief_EN_2015_06.pdf.

[2] Category A measures are those measures that developing members will implement by 22 February 2017, the date of entry into force of the Trade Facilitation Agreement. For least developed countries, that date is 22 February 2018.

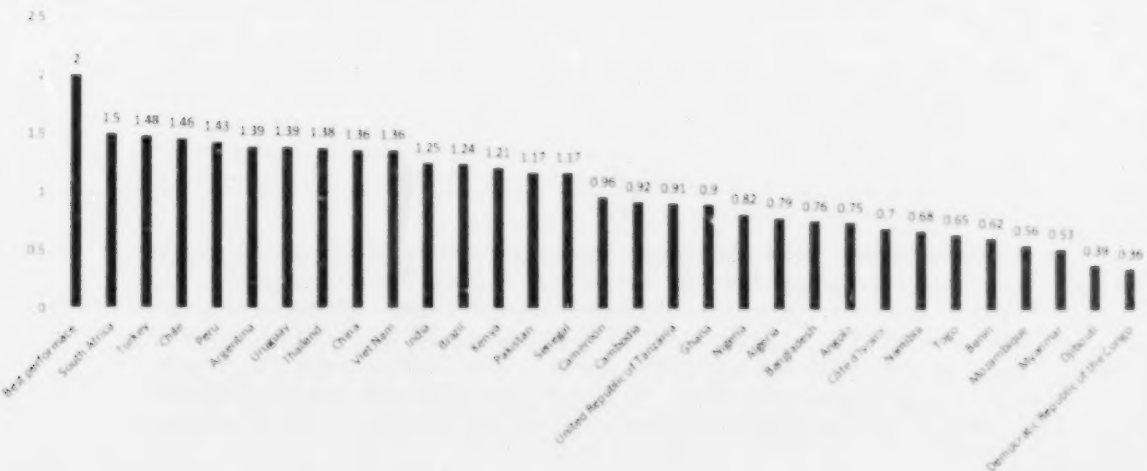
policy areas and measures included in the Trade Facilitation Agreement, including information availability, involvement of the trade community, advance rulings, appeal procedures, fees and charges, documents, automation, procedures, internal border agency cooperation, external border agency cooperation and governance and impartiality. The trade facilitation indicators are ranked from 0 to 2, where 2 denotes the best performance that can be achieved. Figures III and IV show the OECD trade facilitation indicators for landlocked developing countries and transit countries for 2017. The data show that only 17 per cent of the landlocked developing countries for which data were available had trade facilitation indicators of at least 1, while that figure was 47 per cent for transit countries. In both categories of countries, most of the African countries had the lowest trade facilitation indicators.

Figure III
Trade facilitation indicators for landlocked developing countries



Source: OECD database.

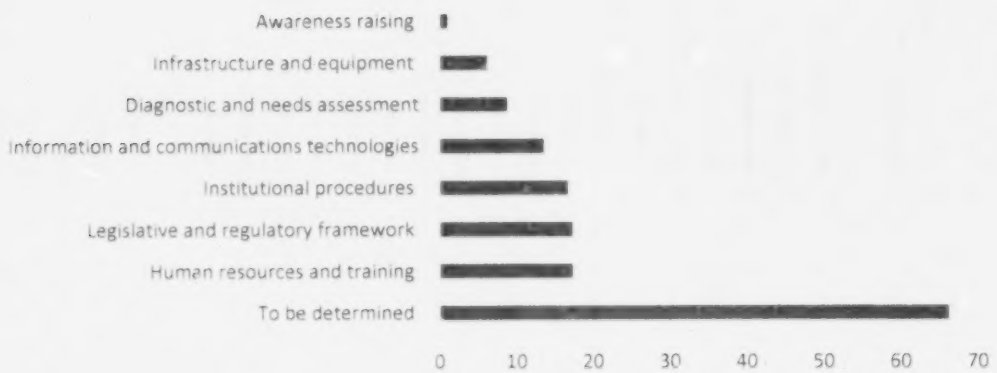
Figure IV
Trade facilitation indicators for transit countries



Source: OECD database.

39. According to the Trade Facilitation Agreement, developing countries and landlocked developing countries are required to provide information to WTO regarding the capacities needed to fully implement the Agreement. According to the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement database, the most common measures indicated by landlocked developing countries as requiring technical and financial assistance to implement include the single-window concept, testing procedures, border agency cooperation, authorized operators and average release times. Figure V shows the types of assistance requested by landlocked developing countries. The "To be determined category" refers to those category C measures[3] for which States have not yet indicated the type of assistance needed. The high percentage of measures in the "To be determined" category might be an indication that landlocked developing countries also require technical assistance to assess their capacity needs.

Figure V
Type of technical assistance requested
(Percentage)



Source: WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement database.

Priority 4: regional integration and cooperation

40. Making full use of the untapped potential of deepened regional integration can contribute to improved economic growth, increase trade and business linkages and foster competitive global integration, while attracting enhanced flows of foreign direct investment (FDI). For landlocked developing countries, regional coordination can also promote economies of scale for infrastructure investments across borders and foster harmonized and consolidated transit procedures, which would reduce transit costs. Joint regional efforts to reduce transit time through corridor facilitation are also crucial to improving export competitiveness and attracting more business to landlocked developing countries.

41. The majority of landlocked developing countries have become more active participants in regional trade agreements and economic blocks (see table 4) and typically trade more with their neighbours and within their regional communities compared with other countries in their respective regions. In Africa, intraregional trade is typically low and only 11 per cent of total African imports that enter under free trade agreements come from within the region. In contrast, goods imported by landlocked developing countries more often originate from other African countries,

[3] Category C measures are those measures that States will need additional time and capacity-building support to implement.

as their share of intra-African imports ranges (with the exception of one landlocked developing country) between 13 and 58 per cent. In addition, on average, 56 per cent of intra-African imports come from within the same regional economic community, whereas that share is over 70 per cent for 11 of the 16 African landlocked developing countries. In Asia,[4] the average share of landlocked developing countries' exports and imports that took place under regional preferential trade agreements was 46 per cent for exports and 53 per cent for imports during 2014–2016. In contrast, the average among Asia-Pacific economies was 43 per cent for exports and 50 per cent for imports.

Table 4
Participation of landlocked developing countries in regional trade agreements and other regional economic communities and regional blocks

Country	*Regional trade agreements*[a]	*Other regional economic communities, regional blocks and arrangements*
Afghanistan	SAFTA	ECO
Armenia	EAEU, CIS	BSEC, TRACECA
Azerbaijan	CIS, ODED-GUAM	ECO, BSEC, TRACECA
Bhutan	SAFTA, SAPTA	
Bolivia (Plurinational Republic of)	CAN, LAIA	UNASUR
Botswana	SACU, SADC	
Burkina Faso	ECOWAS, WAEMU	CEN-SAD
Burundi	COMESA, EAC	ECCAS
Central African Republic	CEMAC	ECCAS, CEN-SAD
Chad	CEMAC	ECCAS, CEN-SAD
Eswatini	COMESA, SADC	
Ethiopia	COMESA	IGAD
Kazakhstan	CEZ, EAEU, CIS, Russian Federation-Belarus-Kazakhstan	ECO, SCO, TRACECA
Kyrgyzstan	EAEU, CIS	ECO, SCO, TRACECA
Lao People's Democratic Republic	ASEAN, AFTA, APTA	
Lesotho	COMESA, SACU, SADC	
Malawi	COMESA, SADC	
Mali	ECOWAS, WAEMU	CEN-SAD
Mongolia		Mongolia-Russian Federation-China
Nepal	SAFTA, SAPTA	

[4] Including Azerbaijan and Armenia.

Country	*Regional trade agreements*[a]	*Other regional economic communities, regional blocks and arrangements*
Niger	ECOWAS, WAEMU	CEN-SAD
Paraguay	LAIA, PTN, MERCOSUR	UNASUR[b]
Republic of Moldova	CEFTA, European Union Association Agreement, ODED-GUAM, CIS	BSEC, TRACECA
Rwanda	EAC, COMESA	ECCAS
South Sudan		IGAD
Tajikistan	CIS	ECO, SCO, TRACECA
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	CEFTA, EFTA, European Union Stabilization and Association Agreement	
Turkmenistan	CIS	ECO
Uganda	COMESA, EAC	IGAD
Uzbekistan	CIS	ECO, SCO, TRACECA
Zambia	COMESA, SADC	
Zimbabwe	COMESA, SADC	

Source: The table is based on the WTO Regional Trade Agreements database and Internet research and may not be exhaustive.

Abbreviations: AFTA, Association of Southeast Asian Nations Free Trade Area; APTA, Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement; ASEAN, Association of Southeast Asian Nations; BSEC, Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation; CAN, Andean Community; CEFTA, Central European Free Trade Agreement; CEMAC, Central African Economic and Monetary Community; CEN-SAD, Community of Sahel-Saharan States; CEZ, Common Economic Zone; CIS, Treaty on a Free Trade Area between members of the Commonwealth of Independent States; COMESA, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa; EAC, East African Community; EAEU, Eurasian Economic Union; ECCAS, Economic Community of Central African States; ECO, Economic Cooperation Organization; ECOWAS, Economic Community of West African States; EFTA, European Free Trade Association; IGAD, Intergovernmental Authority on Development; LAIA, Latin American Integration Association; MERCOSUR, Southern Common Market; ODED-GUAM, Organization for Democracy and Economic Development-GUAM; PTN, Protocol Relating to Trade Negotiations among Developing Countries; SACU, Southern African Customs Union; SADC, Southern African Development Community; SAFTA, South Asian Free Trade Agreement; SAPTA, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Preferential Trade Arrangement; SCO, Shanghai Cooperation Organization; TRACECA, Transport Corridor Europe Caucasus Asia; UNASUR, Union of South American Nations; WAEMU, West African Economic and Monetary Union.

[a] Regional trade agreements (excluding cross-regional agreements) that were notified to WTO.

[b] Paraguay suspended its membership in the Union of South American Nations in April 2018.

42. The economic integration of Africa reached a new milestone in Kigali on 21 March 2018 when African Union member States signed the agreement on the establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area. The agreement will enter into force upon ratification by 22 African Union member States. The agreement includes provisions on trade facilitation, transit and customs cooperation that will be of particular benefit to landlocked developing countries. However, enhancing their capacities in manufacturing and strengthening regional trade can help landlocked developing countries take full advantage of the opportunities of the agreement. The implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action will contribute towards harnessing the full potential of the African Continental Free Trade Area.

43. In Asia, the China-led Belt and Road Initiative shows promising prospects for landlocked developing countries in terms of promoting regional integration, strengthening regional infrastructure, developing regional value chains and driving the harmonization of national policies. The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, a proposed free trade agreement between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), of which the Lao People's Democratic Republic is a member, and the six states with which ASEAN has existing free trade agreements (Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea) is expected to be signed in November 2018.

44. Where investment provisions are part of regional trade agreements, there is stronger impact in terms of attracting greater regional value chain activity and narrowing the competitiveness gap between large and small firms. There have been active developments in international investment policymaking in regions with landlocked developing countries. In Asia, several rounds of negotiations took place throughout 2016 and 2017 on the proposed Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, including its investment provisions. In Latin America, the member States of the Southern Common Market, which includes Paraguay, signed a protocol on cooperation and the facilitation of investment in April 2017. In Africa, SADC member States amended annex I of its Protocol on Finance and Investment in August 2016.

Priority 5: structural economic transformation

45. The Vienna Programme of Action places an emphasis on building productive capacities and enhancing structural economic transformation in landlocked developing countries. While some individual countries recorded successes, the progress towards structural economic transformation has been limited in most landlocked developing countries. The value-added contribution of the manufacturing sector, which is a key component of industrialization, stood at around just 8.7 per cent of GDP during 2015–2017. It has been on a declining trend since 1990, when it was 15.7 per cent of GDP, indicating signs of de-industrialization. Furthermore, landlocked developing countries' share of world manufacturing value added and of world manufacturing trade is negligible, accounting for only 0.39 and 0.31 per cent, respectively, in 2016. Therefore, landlocked developing countries have a very limited capacity to produce and export manufactured goods.

46. Landlocked developing countries' share of manufactured goods in total merchandise exports (see figure VI) amounted to 17.5 per cent in 2016. In comparison, however, the share for all developing countries stood at 71.1 per cent. Their share of primary commodities, precious stones and non-monetary gold, while decreasing in recent years, likely owing to falls in commodity prices, remains high at 81.9 per cent of total exports. That indicates their dependence on primary commodities, which are typically low value added.

47. Limited manufacturing and industrial capacity hampers the integration of landlocked developing countries into value chains, as modern manufacturing relies on the import and export of components through regional and global value chains. Estimates suggest that the share of developing countries in total value added created by global value chains was just 38 per cent. Landlocked developing countries need to strive to add value to their products in order to link up to value chains.

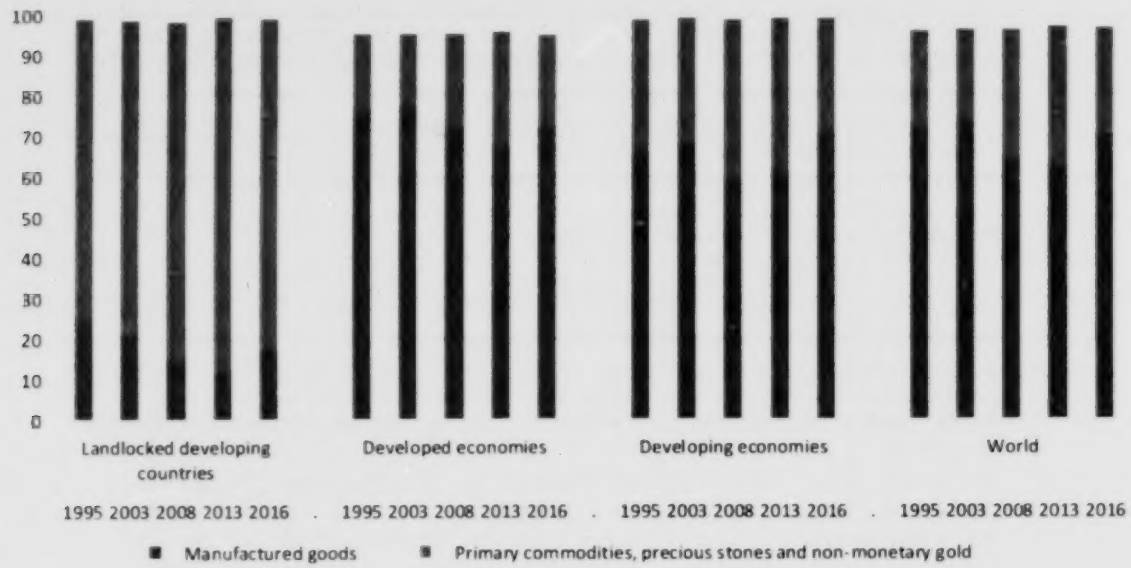
48. In addition, the exports of landlocked developing countries are concentrated in a very limited number of products. Their concentration index (as measured by the Herfindahl-Hirschman Index[5]) reached a high of 0.38 in 2013. While falling to 0.22

[5] In which a value closer to 1 indicates a country's exports or imports are highly concentrated in a few products.

in 2016, it is still considerably higher than the 0.09 reported for developing countries. At the same time, the trade structures of landlocked developing countries have not become more diversified over time in comparison with the global average, as measured by the diversification index.[6] It has remained at above 0.6 since 1995, while in contrast developing countries as a whole had a diversification index of 0.2 in 2016. That lack of diversification makes landlocked developing countries vulnerable to external shocks and limits their competitiveness and ability to create high value-added products, meaningful productive employment and innovative technologies.

Figure VI
Share of primary commodities and manufactured goods in exports

(Percentage)



Source: UNCTADstat.

49. Data from the Doing Business database of the World Bank, which compares the ease of doing business in 190 countries, shows that the majority of landlocked developing countries have shown improvements in creating enabling regulatory environments for the local private sector, which is crucial for developing an industrial base. From 2 June 2016 to 1 June 2017, 1 landlocked developing country ranked in the top 20 countries in terms of its business regulatory environment and has carried out the second highest number of reforms since 2003, and 3 more ranked in the top quarter of countries. Another 3 were identified on the list of top 10 improvers. That is indicative of those economies undertaking ongoing, broad reform programmes, pointing to improvements in their economies. At the same time, 19 landlocked developing countries ranked in the bottom half of the rankings and 10 have experienced setbacks in their regulatory reform efforts since 2003.

50. The value-added contribution of the agriculture sector to the economy also declined in landlocked developing countries over the past two decades, but increased from 14.7 per cent in 2014 to 16.2 per cent in 2017. At the same time, agriculture accounts for around 50 per cent of employment in those countries, suggesting low

[6] Computed by measuring the absolute deviation of the trade structure of a country from the global trade structure; a value closer to 1 indicates greater divergence from the world pattern.

relative levels of productivity of agriculture in comparison with the other sectors. In addition, since 2000, the gap between the productivity of their agricultural sectors and those of OECD countries has not become any smaller. Landlocked developing countries should therefore make efforts to raise agricultural productivity and industrialize agriculture, including by employing industrial production methods and expanding value chains for agribusiness and agroprocessing.

51. Utilizing technology in the production of manufactured products can help landlocked developing countries add value to their products; however, that is an area where they are still facing some challenges. Landlocked developing countries lag behind in technology-intensive manufactured exports compared with developing countries and developed countries. However, landlocked developing countries as a group have made a large leap with regard to employing skill and technology in the production of manufactured products since the early 2000s. They have moved away from exports of "labour-intensive and resource-intensive manufactures",[7] whose share in manufactured products exports has almost halved from 49.7 per cent in 2000 to 25.6 per cent in 2016. In contrast, the share of "high-skill and technology-intensive manufactures"[8] exports has increased from 20.5 to 37.6 per cent.

52. Given their geographic obstacles, remoteness and isolation from markets and high transit costs, the services sector, and in particular tourism, is increasingly being recognized as an important sector for landlocked developing countries in terms of creating entrepreneurship opportunities and full and productive employment and fostering economic growth. The development of airline routes and the sustaining of their economic viability through tourism also contributes to diversifying market access for various economic activities.

Priority 6: means of implementation

53. In 2016, landlocked developing countries received $25.8 billion in ODA from all donors, amounting to 16 per cent of ODA flows to developing countries that year, a real increase of 4.4 per cent since 2015. However, only six countries accounted for 54 per cent of the group's total ODA receipts.

54. ODA continued to be a relatively large and stable source of flows to landlocked developing countries, accounting for more than 10 per cent of gross national income (GNI) in six countries. In four of those countries, ODA accounted for more than 20 per cent of GNI. The role of ODA in government budget support has often been critical for the provision of essential services and infrastructure.

55. Figure VII depicts the inflow of ODA, FDI and remittances to landlocked developing countries between 2010 and 2016.

56. In 2017, the share of FDI flows into landlocked developing countries accounted for 1.6 per cent of global inflows, an increase from 1.2 per cent in 2016. According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), after a five-year decline, FDI flows to those countries amounted to $23 billion, a 3 per cent rise from 2016. That increase was relatively modest, and FDI flows to those countries remained about 40 per cent lower than their peak in 2011. However, FDI flows remain concentrated in a few countries, with the top five recipients accounting for 66 per cent of total flows to the group, while others receive very little in FDI. The majority of FDI flows to landlocked developing countries are to the extractive sectors, such as mining, quarrying and petroleum, which accounted for 66 per cent of total announced

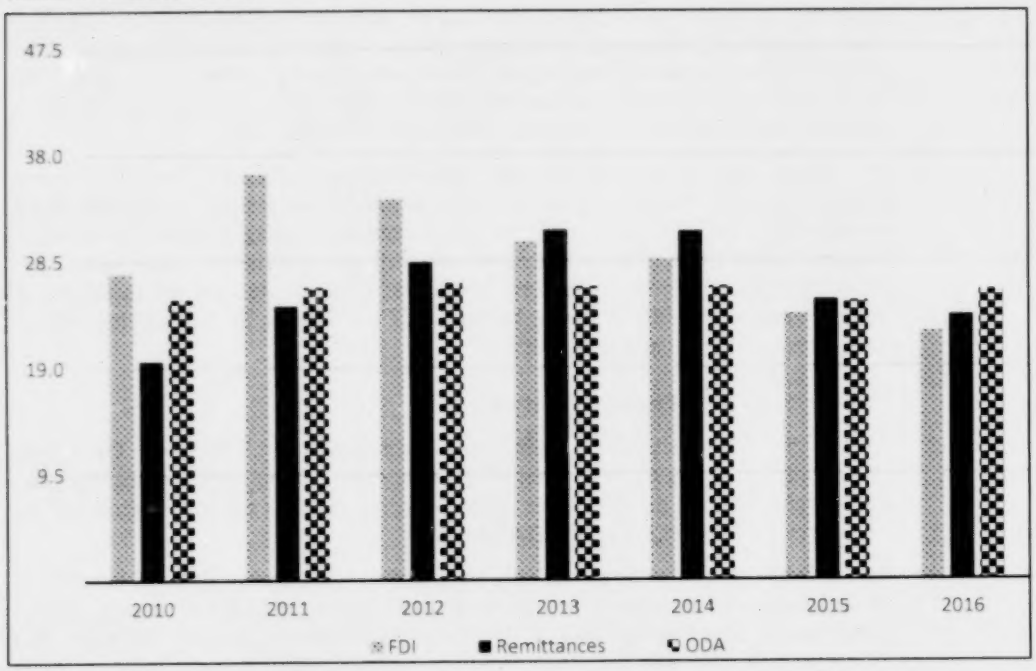
[7] See http://unctadstat.unctad.org/EN/Classifications/DimSiteRev3Products_Tdr_Hierarchy.pdf.
[8] Ibid.

greenfield FDI projects in 2016, followed by manufacturing (including food, textiles, chemicals and coke).

57. China is becoming the largest source of FDI stock for landlocked developing countries. In 2016, China had $29 billion in FDI stock in those countries, followed by France ($13 billion), Canada ($6 billion), the Russian Federation ($5 billion), South Africa ($4 billion) and Thailand ($3 billion). Those figures show the increasing importance of South-South cooperation to landlocked developing countries.

Figure VII
Official development assistance, foreign direct investment and remittances to landlocked developing countries

(Billions of United States dollars)



Source: World Bank, UNCTAD, OECD.
Abbreviations: FDI, foreign direct investment; ODA, official development assistance.

58. In 2016, remittances to landlocked developing countries declined by $2 billion, accounting for only $23.8 billion of the total global flow. Remittances as a percentage of GDP increased from 3.86 in 2015 to 3.92 in 2016. Remittance inflows to landlocked developing countries were unevenly distributed, with three countries accounting for almost 46 per cent of the group's total in 2016.

IV. Follow-up and review

59. The Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States continued to coordinate activities of the United Nations system to ensure the effective implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action. To that end, the Office of the High Representative convened two inter-agency consultative group meetings during the reporting period. The meetings offered the opportunity to discuss progress achieved by various organizations of the United Nations system and other

international organizations in the implementation of the Programme of Action and to foster collaboration and joint work.

60. The Office of the High Representative organized several meetings to advocate and raise awareness with respect to the landlocked developing countries and to foster coherence with the implementation of and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Office organized the following meetings in the reporting period: an expert group meeting on financing infrastructure development; a Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries in the margins of the eleventh Ministerial Conference of WTO, in collaboration with the Chair of the Group; and side events with partners on energy, the private sector, aviation and on Sustainable Development Goal 14 in the margins of major meetings of the General Assembly. The events helped raise awareness and promote the implementation of the priority areas of the Vienna Programme of Action.

61. The Office of the High Representative, together with WTO and other agencies, are working on a project to enhance efficiency at border crossings. The Office is supporting the Chair of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries and WTO on a capacity-building project to promote the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement by those countries and transit countries.

62. The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) organized many advisory and training activities, meetings and capacity-building workshops on all the priority areas of the Vienna Programme of Action. ECE, in cooperation with the Islamic Development Bank, is developing an international transport infrastructure observatory.

63. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific undertook capacity-building and training activities and sectoral research, facilitated regional cooperation, provided policy advisory services and tools for making evidence-based trade and investment policies, and facilitated the sharing of experiences. The support was aimed towards the development of dry ports, highway and railway connectivity, energy, international trade and trade facilitation, ICT and statistics.

64. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) provided technical assistance to the integration initiatives in the region including the Union of South American Nations, the Southern Common Market and the Andean Community. ECLAC is also working on a project on promoting the use of inland navigation in the countries of the River Plate basin.

65. The Economic Commission for Africa provided technical assistance towards the establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area and undertook analytical and capacity-building work on trade facilitation and FDI.

66. UNCTAD is working on building productive capacity indicators for landlocked developing countries and undertakes capacity-building and technical assistance on various thematic areas, including investment, trade and transport logistics. In January 2017, UNCTAD, in collaboration with other international organizations and partners, organized the first International Forum for National Trade Facilitation Committees.

67. The International Trade Centre prepared a report on the competitiveness outlook for small and medium-sized enterprises focused on regional strategies, which included an analysis of nine landlocked developing countries. It also created the first regional trade obstacles alert mechanism, interlinking eight countries in the West African Economic and Monetary Union, including Mali and the Niger.

68. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is providing capacity-building and advisory services support to landlocked developing countries on sustainable broadband development. ITU has also produced country case studies regarding

connectivity opportunities and challenges for the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Paraguay.

69. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is working with landlocked developing countries to improve national capacities with regard to formulating appropriate trade-related policies, mainstream agricultural trade into national development and poverty reduction strategies and develop tools for their effective participation in the multilateral trading system. It is currently undertaking research on food price volatility in markets in both landlocked and coastal countries.

70. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization is currently supporting landlocked developing countries with structural transformation and economic diversification, including through its country partnership programme, with the goal of generating the emergence of a stable and sustainable industrial sector.

71. The United Nations Environment Programme has developed several global-level tools and resources that aim to help developing countries, including Burkina Faso and Mongolia, take advantage of opportunities arising from greener trade practices and policies.

72. The action plan for South-South cooperation was adopted as a vital pillar of the Secretary-General's climate change engagement strategy (2017–2021). In January 2018, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation launched the QIAO plan on climate cooperation to aid the implementation of the action plan for South-South cooperation, which will support small- and large-scale projects on nature conservation and climate change.

73. The United Nations Development Programme is supporting the implementation of projects in some landlocked developing countries, most of which are related to accelerating access to renewable energy, entrepreneurship and job creation, and diversification.

74. The United Nations Population Fund supports governments in developing and targeting relevant investments in empowerment, health, education, employment and data.

75. WTO organized the Global Review on Aid for Trade, held from 30 June to 2 July 2017, on the theme "Promoting trade, inclusiveness and connectivity for sustainable development". The Global Review focused on how and why trade connectivity was critical for inclusiveness, sustainable growth and poverty reduction, and stressed the importance of physical and digital connectivity in enabling global trade.

76. The World Bank currently has 48 active lending projects in 24 landlocked developing countries amounting to $10.8 billion. Of the 48 projects, 34 are ongoing transport and ICT projects that include maintenance, rehabilitation, upgrading or new construction. The World Bank is also supporting the development of necessary broadband infrastructure and promoting the concept of a national broadband policy.

77. The World Customs Organization continues to deliver capacity-building, technical assistance and training to requesting customs administrations, including in landlocked developing countries, to assist them with reform and modernization, and is undertaking workshops to promote the implementation of the transit guidelines.

78. The Asian Development Bank provided $4.3 billion in loans and grants to landlocked developing countries during the 2015–2017 period, accounting for around 32 per cent of the Bank's overall regional cooperation and integration support. Over 85 per cent of the lending volume was provided to the transport and energy sectors (45.8 and 43.0 per cent respectively).

79. The International Finance Corporation is facilitating the connectivity of landlocked developing countries by promoting private sector solutions that help fill critical development gaps in basic infrastructure transport, logistics, ICT and energy, promoting regional integration and economic opportunities and supporting private sector development.

80. The field operations in Central Asia of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe organized a wide range of capacity-building activities and targeted training sessions related to the various aspects of trade facilitation, transit transport development, customs and border regulations in 2017.

81. The International Road Transport Union continues to raise awareness and undertake efforts to build the capacity of landlocked developing countries and transit countries to implement international road transport.

82. The Common Fund for Commodities continues to invest in projects that promote structural economic transformation of commodity sectors in landlocked developing countries. In 2017, the Fund considered 47 project proposals originating from landlocked developing countries, and selected 3 projects for further consideration.

83. The International Chamber of Commerce, as part of the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation, along with the World Economic Forum and the Center for International Private Enterprise, and in cooperation with and the German Agency for International Cooperation, are currently implementing trade facilitation projects in transit countries such as Ghana, Kenya and Viet Nam, and in Zambia, which is a landlocked developing country.

84. The Economic Cooperation Organization is undertaking activities to deepen regional integration among its member States, including with regard to transport infrastructure, energy and disaster risk reduction.

V. Status of preparations for the comprehensive high-level midterm review on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action

85. The General Assembly, in its resolution 72/232, decided to hold a comprehensive high-level midterm review on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action. The Assembly designated the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States as the United Nations system-wide focal point for the preparatory review process and invited other United Nations system organizations, within their respective mandates, to provide necessary support and actively contribute to the preparatory process and the high-level midterm review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action.

86. The General Assembly mandated that costs relating to the midterm review and its preparation be financed through voluntary contributions. In that regard, the Office of the High Representative is undertaking the mobilization of resources. The Inter-Agency Consultative Group for Landlocked Developing Countries held a meeting that discussed ways to forge collaboration towards the organization of the midterm review and its preparatory process.

87. The first activity related to the high-level midterm review was a Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries on trade and transport, hosted by the Government of Kazakhstan in Astana in May 2018. The meeting adopted a declaration that contained recommendations regarding transport connectivity, structural transformation and trade and trade facilitation.

88. The landlocked developing countries have been invited to submit their national reports to inform the midterm review. The Office of the High Representative is consulting with the regional commissions and Member States with regard to the preparations of the regional meetings.

VI. Inauguration of the International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries

89. The Multilateral Agreement for the Establishment of an International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries entered into force on 6 October 2017. The Think Tank was proposed by the Government of Mongolia with the support of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries and is located in Ulaanbaatar. The Think Tank was inaugurated during a Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries held in June 2018, which adopted a declaration. The Think Tank is the first intergovernmental body of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries, and it is a milestone achievement in efforts to address their special needs. The Think Tank aims to serve as a centre of excellence for research and policy advice and to strengthen the analytical capacities of landlocked developing countries on issues of critical importance to their development. In so doing, the Think Tank will foster informed solutions, promote national ownership and help accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Vienna Programme of Action.

VII. Conclusions and recommendations

90. **Landlocked developing countries face special challenges associated with their lack of direct territorial access to the sea and their remoteness and isolation from world markets. The countries are making efforts towards achieving some of the Sustainable Development Goals; however, their progress is slow, as they mostly lag behind the averages of the other developing countries and the world.**

91. **There is a need to do more to address the special challenges associated with being landlocked, and to ensure that landlocked developing countries are not left behind. Priority attention and support should be given to those countries regarding the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and their follow-up processes.**

92. **With consistent and dedicated efforts on the part of landlocked developing countries, supported by strong partnerships and enhanced collaboration with transit countries, development partners, the United Nations system, international and regional organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders, landlocked developing countries should be able to accelerate progress in implementing the Vienna Programme of Action and turn themselves into "landlinked" countries.**

93. **The General Assembly, in its resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system, agreed on reforms that will improve the United Nations system's collective support to countries as they implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular with regard to landlocked developing countries, which are among the nations that most need the assistance of the United Nations system.**

94. **The scale of funding and financing needed to close the transport infrastructure gap of landlocked developing countries and bring it to comparable global standards is daunting. Strong partnerships will be crucial to bridging that gap. In addition, landlocked developing countries could consider increasing domestic financing and being more cost-effective and efficient in using the**

funding that is available. It is important that multilateral and regional development banks support landlocked developing countries and transit countries in developing bankable infrastructure and transport projects that are financially viable and environmentally friendly, and provide the resources to implement those projects.

95. **Development partners are invited to increase ODA towards the development of transport and energy infrastructure.**

96. **Landlocked developing countries require continued and enhanced investment and technical assistance aimed at strengthening their capacity for the collection of data, especially on transport, in order to produce reliable and frequent statistics to monitor the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Vienna Programme of Action.**

97. **Development partners should consider assisting landlocked developing countries in developing ICT infrastructure and helping to ensure that appropriate policies and legal and regulatory frameworks are in place to support ICT development and close the digital divide. That will also help those countries utilize opportunities related to e-commerce.**

98. **Landlocked developing countries should consider the gradual liberalization of air transport to enhance competitiveness and lower service costs.**

99. **Landlocked developing countries and transit countries are encouraged to foster cooperation and ratify and implement relevant international conventions.**

100. **The sharing of national experiences and lessons learned among landlocked developing countries and transit countries is an important element of cooperation and should be supported by the international community.**

101. **The landlocked developing countries and transit countries that are members of WTO should enhance their efforts to implement the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement. The enhanced provision of technical, financial and capacity-building assistance to those countries is necessary to ensure the effective implementation of the Agreement. To facilitate the acquisition of assistance, landlocked developing countries need to indicate their capacity needs for the measures listed under category C of the Agreement.**

102. **Landlocked developing countries aiming to increase exports through value chains should consider making investment provisions part of regional trade agreements, as deep regional trade agreements help deliver greater regional value chain activity and narrow the competitiveness gap between large and small firms.**

103. **Landlocked developing countries should focus on enhancing their capacity to produce modern and higher value-added products, focus on high-productivity sectors and industrialize their agriculture sectors, and should continue to utilize new and existing technology in the production of manufactured products in order to add value to their products and connect with regional and global value chains.**

104. **Landlocked developing countries should continue to make improvements in creating enabling regulatory environments for business, which are crucial to developing a strong industrial base and attracting investment. Development partners are invited to provide technical, financial and capacity-building assistance to support such efforts.**

105. **Landlocked developing countries can attract more FDI by improving their regulatory environments and by engaging in regional integration initiatives and deepening their cooperation with transit countries.**

106. **The international community is invited to provide support to the International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries.**

107. **Those landlocked developing countries that have not yet ratified the Multilateral Agreement for the Establishment of an International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries are encouraged to do so.**

108. **The comprehensive high-level midterm review on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, to be held in 2019, shall review progress made, identify obstacles and constraints encountered and provide recommendations to further accelerate its implementation. It should also reaffirm and strengthen partnerships for implementation. The international community should give particular importance to the preparatory process and ensure its active support and participation in the midterm review.**

Annex

Statistical tables

Table 1
Gross domestic product, rate of growth, official development assistance and foreign direct investment

Landlocked developing countries	*GDP (constant 2010 prices, billions of United States dollars)*		*GDP growth (annual percentage)*		*Official development assistance disbursements (current prices, millions of United States dollars)*	*Foreign direct investment inflows (millions of United States dollars)*
	2015	*2016*	*2015*	*2016*	*2016*	*2016*
Afghanistan	20.89	21.63	-1.79	3.56	4 064	100
Armenia	12.24	12.26	3.24	0.19	327	338
Azerbaijan	58.13	56.69	0.65	-2.49	78	4 500
Bhutan	2.07	2.23	6.60	7.99	52	-12
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	25.66	26.76	4.86	4.26	696	410
Botswana	16.15	16.84	-1.70	4.29	91	10
Burkina Faso	11.69	12.38	3.89	5.92	1 023	309
Burundi	2.41	2.45	-0.30	1.70	742	0
Central African Republic	1.43	1.50	4.80	4.53	500	31
Chad	11.89	11.49	4.40	-3.40	624	560
Eswatini	5.47	5.47	4.19	-0.01	147	-11
Ethiopia	43.54	46.83	10.39	7.56	4 074	3 196
Kazakhstan	188.65	190.47	1.15	0.96	60	9 069
Kyrgyzstan	6.06	6.29	3.88	3.83	515	467
Lao People's Democratic Republic	10.63	11.38	7.27	7.02	399	890
Lesotho	2.98	3.07	5.61	2.87	113	132
Malawi	8.44	8.69	2.80	2.96	1 243	326
Mali	15.88	17.13	7.61	7.87	1 209	126
Mongolia	11.68	11.79	2.38	0.95	325	-4 072
Nepal	20.12	20.20	3.32	0.41	1 064	106
Niger	7.70	8.09	3.96	5.04	951	293
Paraguay	25.40	26.41	2.96	3.95	89	274
Republic of Moldova	7.03	7.33	-0.43	4.27	328	143

Landlocked developing countries	GDP (constant 2010 prices, billions of United States dollars)		GDP growth (annual percentage)		Official development assistance disbursements (current prices, millions of United States dollars)	Foreign direct investment inflows (millions of United States dollars)
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2016	2016
Rwanda	8.31	8.81	8.89	5.95	1 148	410
South Sudan	12.56	12.60	5.06	0.32	1 590	-17
Tajikistan	7.55	8.07	5.97	6.90	334	434
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	10.62	10.92	3.86	2.91	168	397
Turkmenistan	37.25	39.56	6.50	6.20	33	4 522
Uganda	25.04	25.62	5.67	2.32	1 757	541
Uzbekistan	58.25	61.74	7.87	6.00	457	67
Zambia	26.06	27.00	2.92	3.61	963	469
Zimbabwe	14.58	14.67	1.42	0.65	655	319
Total/average	**22.39**	**23.01**	**3.49**	**2.79**	**25 821**	**24 326**

Source: Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Table 2
Merchandise exports and imports and sectoral contributions to the economy

Landlocked developing country	Merchandise exports (millions of United States dollars, 2017)	Merchandise imports (millions of United States dollars, 2017)	Share of exports in global exports (percentage, 2017)	Manufacturing (value-added approach, percentage of GDP)		Agriculture, forestry, fishing (value-added approach, percentage of GDP)		Services (value-added approach, percentage of GDP)	
				2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
Afghanistan	780	7 700	0.004	11.3	..	21.0	..	53.0	..
Armenia	2 243	4 183	0.013	10.3	10.2	16.4	14.9	49.9	51.3
Azerbaijan	15 800	8 600	0.089	4.9	4.7	5.6	5.6	38.8	37.5
Bhutan	590	1 000	0.003	7.5	7.1	16.5	15.2	37.4	39.3
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	7 714	9 257	0.044	11.0	10.5	11.2	11.6	49.8	48.7
Botswana	5 896	5 139	0.033	5.2	5.1	2.0	2.0	50.3	58.7
Burkina Faso	2 408	3 418	0.014	6.6	5.6	29.0	27.8	42.1	42.0
Burundi	161	805	0.001	9.2	..	36.4	..	..	..
Central African Republic	124	351	0.001	..	..	40.5	39.6	38.8	39.3

Landlocked developing country	Merchandise exports (millions of United States dollars, 2017)	Merchandise imports (millions of United States dollars, 2017)	Share of exports in global exports (percentage, 2017)	Manufacturing (value-added approach, percentage of GDP)		Agriculture, forestry, fishing (value-added approach, percentage of GDP)		Services (value-added approach, percentage of GDP)	
				2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
Chad	1 300	2 800	0.007	3.2	..	49.5	48.6	32.7	33.5
Eswatini	2 016	1 617	0.011	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ethiopia	3 170	16 289	0.018	5.6	5.6	34.8	34.1	36.5	36.9
Kazakhstan	48 342	29 305	0.273	11.3	11.2	4.6	4.4	57.9	57.4
Kyrgyzstan	1 791	4 481	0.010	15.4	15.1	12.8	12.3	50.1	50.4
Lao People's Democratic Republic	3 950	5 100	0.022	7.8	7.5	17.2	16.2	42.5	41.5
Lesotho	1 033	2 115	0.006	15.6	..	5.2	..	52.6	..
Malawi	1 026	2 434	0.006	12.2	11.8	9.1	9.4	53.1	54.2
Mali	2 822	4 732	0.016	9.5	9.4	25.9	26.1	51.9	52.4
Mongolia	6 201	4 336	0.035	..	..	38.4	38.3	36.6	36.7
Nepal	750	10 500	0.004	11.8	11.5	12.1	12.2	56.1	55.4
Niger	1 193	1 701	0.007	7.3	8.3	11.7	10.4	..	..
Paraguay	8 680	11 875	0.049	5.3	5.2	29.2	27.0	50.0	51.5
Republic of Moldova	2 425	4 832	0.014	5.6	5.7	39.0	39.7	..	..
Rwanda	1 189	1 963	0.007	10.8	11.2	18.1	18.1	45.1	45.5
South Sudan	..	..	..	5.8	5.9	29.3	31.0	47.3	46.4
Tajikistan	1 200	2 700	0.007	31.4	..	9.5	..	51.0	..
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	5 671	7 720	0.032	9.7	..	20.4	..	42.3	..
Turkmenistan	7 000	6 000	0.039	..	..	..	..	..	..
Uganda	2 790	5 439	0.016	8.7	8.2	23.7	24.9	47.6	47.1
Uzbekistan	10 500	12 000	0.059	..	..	16.1	17.3	45.4	42.5
Zambia	8 139	8 724	0.046	7.7	7.7	6.2	7.2	54.2	52.7
Zimbabwe	3 991	3 900	0.023	8.5	8.1	9.7	10.5	58.2	56.3
Total/average	**160 899**	**191 013**	**0.907**	**8.9**	**8.6**	**16.6**	**16.2**	**48.1**	**48.1**

Source: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, World Bank.